



## Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

### ***Press Release – June 10, 2005***

#### **NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS TAKES DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST TWO PHYSICIANS, ENTERS INTO A STIPULATION FOR SETTLEMENT WITH ONE PHYSICIAN, AND DENIES THE APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE OF TWO PHYSICIANS**

***At its quarterly meeting on June 3 & 4, 2005, the Board, after review and consideration of disciplinary cases presented at formal hearings, adjudicated cases against two licensed medical doctors:***

##### **Alvaro H. Devia, M.D.**

The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners found Alvaro H. Devia, M.D. guilty of one count of malpractice for failing to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances in providing care or treatment to a patient, a violation of NRS 630.301(4). The Board ordered that Dr. Devia be fined \$5,000.00, payable within 6 months of the Board's order, successfully complete 20 hours of continuing medical education in chest trauma, in addition to continuing medical education hours required for licensure, within 1 year of the Board's order, and pay all administrative fees and costs incurred in the investigation and prosecution of the case against him, payable within 6 months of the Board's order.

##### **Juan E. Manzur**

The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners found Juan E. Manzur, M.D. guilty of the two counts of the Complaint filed against him: one count of engaging in conduct that brings the medical profession into disrepute, a violation of NRS 630.301(9); and one count of inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety because of illness, a mental or physical condition or the use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics or any other substance, a violation of NRS 630.306(1). The Board revoked Dr. Manzur's license to practice medicine in Nevada, and ordered that he pay all administrative fees and costs incurred in the investigation and prosecution of the case against him.

***At its quarterly meeting on June 3 & 4, 2005, the Board approved and entered into a stipulation for settlement of its complaint against one licensed medical doctor:***

**Elliott D. Schmerler, M.D.**

The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners accepted and approved the stipulation for settlement of its complaint against physician Elliott D. Schmerler, M.D. The Board ordered that Dr. Schmerler be found guilty of one count of malpractice for failing to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances in providing care or treatment to a patient, a violation of NRS 630.301(4), and ordered that Dr. Schmerler receive a public written reprimand and pay all administrative fees and costs incurred in the investigation and prosecution of the case against him.

***At its quarterly meeting on June 3 & 4, 2005, the Board ratified licensure of 91 physicians, 7 physician assistants and 24 practitioners of respiratory care, and interviewed 22 applicants for licensure, 21 physicians and 1 physician assistant, who were requested to personally appear before the Board.***

Of the 22 applicants who personally appeared, the Board denied the applications of 2 physicians:

**Gerald A. Coniglio, M.D.**

The Board denied the application for medical licensure in the state of Nevada of Gerald Coniglio, M.D., based upon the excessive number of malpractice claims against him which have been settled on his behalf, some in large amounts, and his continued pattern of receiving adverse reports from nearly every facility in which he has practiced, many concerning interpersonal relationships and others concerning standard-of-care issues in the communities where he has practiced.

**Jeffrey S. Wick, M.D.**

The Board denied the application for medical licensure in the state of Nevada of Jeffrey S. Wick, M.D., pursuant to NRS 630.304(1), based upon his false, misleading and/or inaccurate statements on his 2003 application for licensure, and because his current application, and the explanations contained therein, were not completed in an adequate manner.

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Of the remaining applicants who personally appeared, the Physician Assistant was granted a license subject to conditions, and 15 of the physician applicants were granted licenses, 1 of which was a change from inactive status to active status, 1 a limited license for a resident, 1 a restricted license for administrative medicine, 2 were granted with conditions and 1 was granted subject to passing a peer review or passing a re-certification examination. The Board declined to exercise its statutory discretion to grant licensure by endorsement to the remaining 4 applicants.

From January 1, 2005 through May 31, 2005, the Board has licensed 176 physicians administratively, that is, to applicants who met all of the statutory and regulatory requirements for licensure. This does not include the applicants who appeared before the Board at the June meeting.